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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/709,582	
	Filing Date	May 14, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Johnson, John E.	
	Art Unit	3643	
	Examiner Name	PARSLEY, DAVID J.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	44	Attorney Docket Number	717119.483

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

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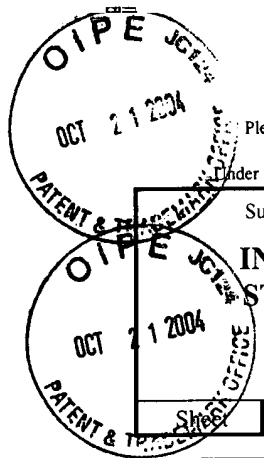
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/709,582
				Filing Date	May 14, 2004
				First Named Inventor	John E. Johnson
				Group Art Unit	3643
				Examiner Name	Parsley, David J
Sheet 1	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	717119.483

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	3,546,737		Neebel et al.	12/15/1970	
	AB	3,613,154		Townsend	10/19/1971	
	AC	3,789,456		Doerfer et al.	02/05/1974	
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	AS	6,558,242		Veldkamp, et al.	05/06/2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	AT	EP	0 402 877	B1	Slagteriernes Forskningsinstitut	09/04/1996		
	AU	EP	0 422 877	A2	International Business Machines	04/17/1991		
	AV	EP	0 484 933	B1	Maja-Maschinenfabrik	08/03/1994		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Document. ³ Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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